



Connecticut Chapter
645 Farmington Ave.
Hartford, Connecticut 06105
www.connecticut.sierraclub.org
Martin Mador, Legislative Chair

Government Elections and Administration Committee
March 7, 2011

Testimony In Support of
SB1010 AAC The Transfer of Functions from the Departments of Public Works,
Information Technology, Public Safety and Education and the
Judicial Selection Commission to the Department of Administrative Services and
Department of Construction Services

I am Martin Mador, 130 Highland Ave., Hamden, CT 06518. I am the volunteer Legislative Chair for the Sierra Club-Connecticut Chapter, the Political Chair for the Sierra Club-Connecticut Chapter, and a campaign committee treasurer for the past six elections (2000-2010). I am also a director of Rivers Alliance and of the Quinnipiac River Watershed Association, and Legislative Chair for the Connecticut Foundation for Environmentally Safe Schools. I hold a Masters of Environmental Management degree from the Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies.

Section 39(c) of SB 1010 transfers responsibility for grants for school construction projects from the Department of Education to the new Department of Construction Services. We have found the commitment of the state Department of Education to quality school construction to be lackluster. Neither of the two previous Commissioners would even grant a meeting on the subject. There is currently no state staff in *any* state agency whose responsibility includes the quality of our school buildings. We endorse this transfer in hopes the new agency will monitor the quality of school facilities, and ensure that they are built at least to the state's High Performance Building Construction Standards (OPM agency regs 16a-38k), if not to higher standards.